## **CLAIMS**

## 1. A process of preparing an arylamine of formula I:

$$R^1$$
 $R^2$ 
 $R^3$ 
 $R^4$ 
 $R^4$ 

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comprising heating a heterocyclyl ring moiety with an aromatic compound with a base and a solvent in the presence of a transition metal catalyst including a phosphine ligand at a temperature between about 120 and about 150°C and for a time effective to give an arylamine compound of formula I,

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wherein:  $\mathbf{R}^1$  is selected from H,  $C_{1\text{--}10}$ alkyl, halogen, amino, methoxy, ethoxy, or hydroxy;

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 ${f R}^2$  is selected from H, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl-amino, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl, C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>heterocyclyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-5</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl or C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, wherein said H, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl-amino, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl, C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>heterocyclyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-5</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl or C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, used in defining  ${\bf R}^2$  is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from H, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl, halogen, amino, methoxy, ethoxy, oxo and hydroxy;

 ${f R}^3$  is selected from H, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl-amino, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl, C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>heterocyclyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-5</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl or C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, wherein said H, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-10</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl-amino, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl, C<sub>4-8</sub>cycloalkenyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-10</sub>heterocyclyl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-5</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl or C<sub>6-10</sub>aryl-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, used in defining  ${\bf R}^3$  is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from H, C<sub>1-10</sub>alkyl, halogen, amino, methoxy, ethoxy, oxo and hydroxy;

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 ${f R}^2$  and  ${f R}^3$  can form a substituted or unsubstituted 5- or 10- membered aromatic or heteroaromatic ring having 0, 1, 2, or 3 nitrogen atoms, 0 or 1 oxygen atoms, and 0 or 1 sulfur atoms said aromatic or heteroaromatic rings or ring systems, when substituted, having substituents selected from  $C_{1-10}$ alkyl, oxygen, oxo, halogen, amino, carbonyl, hydroxycarbony,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl-oxycarbonyl, methoxy, methoxy- $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, ethoxy, and hydroxy.

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 $\mathbf{R}^4$  is selected from H,  $C_{1\text{--}10}$ alkyl, halogen, amino, methoxy, ethoxy, and hydroxy;

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- 2. A process according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is, independently, hydrogen or fluoro.
- 3. A process according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is methyl-carbonyl
- 4. A process according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is hydroxy.
- 5. A process according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is methyl.
- 6. A process according to claim 1, wherein O is piperazinyl.

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- 7. A process according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> form an optionally substituted 3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran ring having substitutents, independently selected from H, oxo, C<sub>1</sub>.

  3alkyl-oxycarbonyl and hydroxycarbonyl.
- 8. A process according to claim 1, wherein said base is cesium carbonate
- 9. A process according to claim 1, wherein said solvent is anisole.
- 30 10. A process according to claim 1, wherein said solvent is xylene.

- 11. A process according to claim 1, wherein said transition metal catalyst is selected from palladium or palladium acetate.
- 12. A process according to claim 1, wherein said transition metal catalyst is d2(dba)3.
- 13. A process according to claim 1, wherein said phosphine ligand is racemic 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl (rac-BINAP).
- 14. A process according to claim 1, wherein said heating is at a temperature between about 125 and about 130°C.
- 15. A process of preparing a compound of formula II:

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comprising:

A) heating a mixture of a compound of formula II:

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and a compound of formula VIa:

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with a base and a solvent in the presence of a metal transition catalyst including a phosphine ligand at a temperature between about 120 and about 150°C and for a time effective to give compounds of formula VIb:

- B) hydrolysis of compound of formula VIb under either basic or acidic conditions at a temperature and for a time effective to give compounds of formula (II).
  - 16. A process according to claim 15, wherein said base is cesium carbonate
  - 17. A process according to claim 15, wherein said solvent is anisole.
  - 18. A process according to claim 15, wherein said solvent is xylene.
- 19. A process according to claim 15, wherein said transition metal catalyst is selected from palladium or palladium acetate.
  - 20. A process according to claim 15, wherein said transition metal catalyst is Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>.
  - 21. A process according to claim 15, wherein said phosphine ligand is racemic 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl (rac-BINAP).
- 22. A process according to claim 15, wherein said heating is at a temperature between about about 125 and 130°C.

- 23. A process of preparing a compound of formula II comprising:
  - A) heating a mixture of a compound of formula Va:

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and acetyl chloride in the presence of a Lewis acid catalyst at a temperature and for a time effective to give compounds of formula Vb:

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B) combining the compounds of formula Vb and diethyl oxalate to an alcohol solution at a temperature and for a time effective to give compounds of formula Vc:

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C) heating the compound of formula Vc with a mixture of acids at a temperature and for a time effective to give compounds of formula II:

D) heating a mixture of a compound of formula II and a compound of formula VIa:

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with a base and a solvent in the presence of a metal transition catalyst including a bidentate phosphine ligand at a temperature between about 120 and 150°C and for a time effective to give compounds of formula VIb:

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B) hydrolysis of compound of formula VIb under either basic or acidic conditions at a temperature and for a time effective to give compounds of formula (II).

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24. A process according to claim 23, wherein said Lewis acid catalyst is aluminum chloride.

- 25. A process according to claim 23, wherein said Lewis acid catalyst is zirconium tetrachloride.
- 26. A process according to claim 23, wherein said alcohol solution is sodium ethoxide in absolute ethanol.
- 5 27. A process according to claim 23, wherein said mixture of acids is a mixture of acetic acid and hydrochloric acid.
  - 28. A process according to claim 23, wherein said base is cesium carbonate
  - 29. A process according to claim 23, wherein said solvent is anisole.
  - 30. A process according to claim 23, wherein said solvent is xylene.
- 31. A process according to claim 23, wherein said transition metal catalyst is selected from palladium or palladium acetate.
  - 32. A process according to claim 23, wherein said transition metal catalyst is Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>.
  - 33. A process according to claim 23, wherein said phosphine ligand is racemic 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl (rac-BINAP).
- 15 34. A process according to claim 23, wherein said heating is at a temperature between about 125 and 130°C.
  - 35. A compound of the formula (IV):

wherein

20 R<sup>1</sup> is selected from H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, halogen, hydroxy, methoxy or cyano,
Q is selected from piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, azetidinyl or
isoxazolidinyl, and R<sup>4</sup> is selected from H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl, hydroxy,
methoxy, aryl or heterocyclyl.

- 36. A compound according to claim 35, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is, independently, hydrogen or fluoro.
- 37. A compound according to claim 35, wherein Q is piperazinyl.
- 5 38. A compound according to claim 35, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is, independently, H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl.
  - 39. A compound according to claim 35, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is methyl.